MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : ഒന്നുമില്ല.

MR. CHAZHIKATTU JOSEPH : കഴിയുന്നതും വേഗത്തിൽ ഒരു ഡിപ്പോയെങ്കിലും സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിനു മാർഗ്ഗമുണ്ടാകുമോ ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കാം.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI : May I know is it the urban area or the rural area which requires manure ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : It is the rural area, no doubt.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI : Then, why not make that available in those places ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : In a place like Travancore there is no difference between rural and urban area because the distance between places is not so wide. For instance there is a compost manure depot at Nagercoil which occupies a central position for the localities surrounding it. Within one or two miles range, there are vast expanse of fields.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI : It is more than 30 miles.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : May I know how many demonstration centres are conducted by Government ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : About 46 demonstration centres in paddy and 22 in coccanut.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : May I know how many centres are there in the Parur Taluk ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : I am sorry, I must look up the files to supply that information.

Supply of food materials.

73 *MR. E. K. MADHAVAN (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether any charges are levied for weighing and measuring of food materials supplied to retail dealers from the Government depots of the State ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : No.

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN : May I know whether Government have employed coolies in the godowns for the sake of weighing and measuring of food materials ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : The question is whether any charges are levied for weighing and measuring of food materials supplied to retail dealers from the Government Depots of the State, and the answer is 'No'.

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN : May I know who does the weighing and measuring work ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : The depot officer.

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN : But in some places retail merchants are charged for this item of work.

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MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: That is not the case at all. What happens is that, Government, on their own account, weigh the food stuffs from within the godowns and give them out to the merchants.

MR. M. K. CHANDRASEKHARA BHATTATHIRI (*The Travancore Jenmies, South*): Do the Government know that in some places merchants are charged for weighing and measuring?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: No, Sir.

PRESIDENT: Has any instance been brought to the notice of Government?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: No, Sir.

MR. M. K. CHANDRASEKHARA BHATTATHIRI: That is being done at present in Parur.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR: May I know why retail merchants in Taluk areas are charged 6 annas more per sack than the retail merchants in municipal areas?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Because it involves additional transport charges.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR: Is the member aware that there is this difference of 6 annas per sack for food stuffs issued from the same stockists?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: I shall make enquiries.

Excise Department.

74. * MR. N. D. PARAMESWARAN NAMBOODIRI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) who does the prosecution work in the Excise Department;

(*b*) the number of prosecutions in 1118 and 1119; and

(*c*) how many of them were contentious?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) Excise Inspectors in charge of the Ranges are attending to the prosecution work and are generally in charge of the cases filed in their respective ranges.

(*b*) 1545 in 1118 and 2044 in 1119.

(*c*) 83 in 1118 and 95 in 1119.

MR. V. SRIDHARAN PILLAI: Sir, the member who has put the question is not present. Can I ask supplementry questions?

PRESIDENT: Yes.

MR. V. SRIDHARAN PILLAI: May I know from the honourable member whether these Inspectors who are investigating the charges and charge sheeting the cases are allowed to conduct prosecution in the courts?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: Sir, They are conducting these prosecutions.

MR. V. SRIDHARAN PILLAI: May I know whether Government have thought it necessary or desirable to investigate the reasons for such a low percentage of convicted cases?

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